

## Native American Chronology

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### elections from:

*Atlas of the North American Indian*, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition. Carl Waldman. Checkmark Books, New York, 2009  
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*A People's History of the United States*. Howard Zinn. New York: Harper-Collins, 1980  
*BRIDGE: Building a Race and Immigration Dialogue in the Global Economy*. Eunice Hyunhye Cho, Miriam Ching Yoon Louie & Sasha Khokha. National Network for immigrant an refugee rights, Oakland, CA, 2004 (BRIDGE)  
*Native American FAQ's Handbook*. George Russell. Russell Publications: Phoenix, AZ, 2000 (FAQ)  
*"The Color of Wealth: Story Behind the U.S. Racial Divide"*, *United for a Fair Economy*, 2006

**Web sites:** <http://www.csulb.edu/projects/ais> American Indian History and Related Issues & <http://www.indiancountry.com/http://teeksaphoto.org/Writing/WinterCount.html> A Winter's Count. Skip Schiel, 1992  
<http://www.college.emory.edu/culpeper/BAKEWELL/chronology.html> Colonial Latin America Chronology  
<http://www.wsu.edu/%7Edee/CIVAMRCA/TIMELINE.HTM> Civilizations in America

*Also see the Latino chronology for experiences of Latinos from Mexico and Latin America which are relevant to the NA population.*  
*Also see the Asian American chronology for experiences of Native Hawaiian which may be relevant to the NA population.*  
*Also see the Multiracial chronology for experiences of Multiracial NA's which are relevant to the NA population.*

1200 BCE	The earliest civilization in Central America—and possibly the earliest civilization in the Americas—was the Olmec civilization which arose sometime between 1200 and 1000 BCE. They originally lived in the Gulf Coast region of southern Mexico, but soon expanded into Guatemala.
1000	Mayan civilization flourishes in the Yucatan peninsula and Guatemala. The earliest urban culture on the South American continent was the Chavín culture, so-called because its major site was found in the area of Chavín de Huantar. The Chavín culture arose in the highlands of northern Peru around 1000 BCE—about the same time as the Olmecs in Central America and thrived until 500 BCE.
600 AD	After the decline of the Chavín civilization in northern Peru, the Andean regions were dominated by local urban cultures. In the Middle Horizon period (600-1000 AD), a new culture, the Huari-Tiahuanaco dominated the region and enforced cultural conformity. The culture centered around Tiahuanaco near Lake Titicaca. The Huari-Tiahuanaco culture built massive architectural works with giant stones cut with extreme precision. Scholars believe that the architecture and the social and political structure of the Incas ultimately derive from Huari-Tiahuanaco.
700	Teotihuacán is conquered by northern tribes/Nations and begins to rapidly decline in its influence over the Mexican peoples. For two hundred years following the decline of Teotihuacán, the region had no centralized culture or political control. Beginning around 950, a culture based in northern Mexico at Tula began to dominate Central America. These people were known as the Toltecs. They were a war-like people and expanded rapidly throughout Mexico, Guatemala, and the Yucatán peninsula. At the top of their society was a warrior aristocracy which attained mythical proportions in the eyes of Central Americans long after the demise of their power. Around 1200, their dominance over the region fades.
900	Decline of classic Maya culture.
c.AD 1000	Norsemen reach North America.
1000-1400	After the decline of the Huari-Tiahuanaco culture, the northern area of Peru was dominated by the Chimu empire during the Late Intermediate period. The Chimu produced many innovations in South American urban life: irrigation systems, canals, and highways, all of which would be adopted by the Incas when they ascended to regional dominance in the sixteenth century.
1280	the end of the Pueblo III period which began in about 1150 in which ancestral Puebloan people lived in impressive, stone-masonry villages in what is now Southwestern Colorado (the Mesa Verde region). The ancestral Puebloan people are thought to have moved south into present-day New Mexico and Arizona, where their descendants live today, following a period of violence toward the end of a 25-year drought.
1320-1350	Tenochtitlan-Tlatelolco, the Aztec capital, begins to rise.
late 1420's	Formation of the Triple Alliance, the basis of Aztec imperial expansion.
1440's	Start of Inca imperial expansion.
1400's	First caravels built in Iberian peninsula.

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late 1420's	Formation of the Triple Alliance, the basis of Aztec imperial expansion.
1440s	Start of Inca imperial expansion.
1492	Columbus lands on Caribbean island which he names San Salvador. The Native American population is over 5 million. From Columbus through 1890, the history of the Native Americans is marked by broken treaties, forced removal, and continuous battles with European settlers, occasionally won by the Native Americans but far more frequently resulting in the massacre of the Native Americans.
1494	Columbus initiated the enslavement of Native Americans by Europeans by sending more than 500 of them to Spain to be sold.
1501-1502	East coast of South America surveyed by Amerigo Vespucci. Portuguese exploration of Brazilian coast.
1507	World map of Martin Waldseemüller, showing "America."
1511	First Spanish town on the American mainland: Santa María la Antigua de Darién. Conquest of Cuba, from Hispaniola. Audiencia established at Santo Domingo, the first in America. Sermon of Antonio de Montesinos, O.P., in Santo Domingo, criticizing colonists' treatment of Native Americans.
1512	Arrival of first bishop (of Caparra, Hispaniola) in America. Laws of Burgos, the first code regulating Spanish treatment of Native People. The Jeronymite Fathers in La Espanola decide to save the decimated Arawak population by gathering them into missions. Soon, missions spread like wildfire throughout the Spanish Empire.
1513	Juan Ponce de León claims Florida for Spain. Vasco Núñez de Balboa crosses the Isthmus of Panama to the Pacific.
1510	Diego Velazquez de Cuellar departs with more than three hundred men to conquer Cuba, and lands at Puerto Escondido. He is successful in defeating Arawak chieftain Hatuey's guerilla raids
1600's	Beginning in the 1600's, the colonists began a brutal massacre of different Native Americans Nations/tribes. This massacre resulted in the death of over nine million Native Americans by 1700. According to Howard Zinn's A People's History of the United States: 1492-Present, the methods used to kill Native Americans during this genocidal period included lynching and the introduction of diseases by the colonists, forced migration and other tactics. This treatment of Native Americans continued into the 1700s, when many were captured and made to work on plantations with African American slaves.
1605-19	English ships visit the New England coast, trading with Algonquins and kidnapping many of them.
1607	Jamestown is founded.
1616	The English in VA, unable to raise their own food, tried to collect tribute, but the Chickahominy refused. The English invaded, captured, and killed several leaders, and forced the payment of tribute.
1620	Pilgrims land in Plymouth. MA.
1622	First major Native American retaliation. Chief Opechancanough of the Powhatan Confederacy, led the assault on the nearly 350 English settlers around Jamestown, Virginia.
1637	Pequot War between Pequots and European settlers.
1649	The English Assembly at Jamestown (VA) ordered that Native American town boundaries be clearly marked and defined. This was a device whereby the whites would not have to recognize Native American title to any lands beyond the town boundaries.
1675-1676	Southern New England Nations/tribes tried to halt English expansion. Metacomet gathered some 20,000 Native Americans who fought for a year against the New England colonists, but failed to win back their country. King Philip's War was one of the bloodiest and most costly in the history of America. One in ten soldiers on both sides was injured or killed. It took many years for Plymouth and the other colonies to recover from damage to property. The outcome of King Philip's War was devastating to the traditional way of life for Native People in New England. Hundreds of Natives who fought with Philip were sold into slavery abroad. Others, especially women and children, were forced to become servants locally. As the traditional base of existence changed due to the Colonists' victory, the Wampanoag and other local Native communities were forced to adapt certain aspects of their culture in order to survive.
1675	Captain Benjamin Church of the Plymouth Colony militia led colonial forces against the Narragansetts in RI who were slaughtered or sold in to slavery.
1680-1683	Aided by some Shawnee, the English in SC destroyed all but fifty of their <i>allies</i> , the Westos, in order to get slaves and better access to the interior. The survivors eventually joined the Creek.
1680	The Pueblo Rebellion, incited by eighty years of harsh treatment by the Spanish, results in the massacre of over four hundred soldiers, officers, and priests; the Southwest reverts to Native American country until 1692 when it is reconquered.
1681	William Penn's "Noble Experiment", the Quaker policy treating Native Americans fairly in the colony of Pennsylvania, lasts about 40 years.

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1691	English people who married Native Americans, Blacks, or mulattos were banished from VA.
1717-1718	The English, French, and Spanish all tried to win over the Creek confederacy to secure its trade, but the Creek were not dominated by any European groups and became a powerful independent force.
1737	In Philadelphia, the "Walking Purchase Treaty" was signed by Penn. Colonists and Delaware's Lappawinzo, Nutimus, and Sassoonan. According to convention, land was ceded by the Native Americans in terms of the distance a man could walk in a day. The English used trained "walkers" who covered 67 miles in a day and a half, a distance far in excess of the Delawares' intent.
1744	The Treaty of Lancaster. Virginia negotiators convinced the Six Nations to surrender their land to the "setting sun," which the Confederacy interpreted as the crest of the Alleghenies and the British interpreted as all of western Virginia. Following the Treaty of Lancaster and the end of King George's War (1748) between England and France, Virginia pioneers pushed west of the Alleghenies.
1750's	Distilled liquor (fire water) is used by traders to entice agreements unfair to native people.
1758	On August 1 <sup>st</sup> "the first Indian reservation in North America was established by the New Jersey Colonial Assembly".
1763	The Ottawa leader Pontiac, and his pan-Native American confederacy, launched its attack on the English in the Great Lakes region with a surprise assault on Detroit. The alliance captured all British forts west of Niagara except for Fort Detroit and Fort Pitt (Pittsburgh). At General Jeffrey Amherst's suggestion, Henry Bouquet ordered the distribution of smallpox-infected blankets to the Native Americans near Fort Pitt. The smallpox epidemic contributed to the collapse of Pontiac's alliance. Pontiac signed a peace treaty with the British in 1765.
1763	The British proclaim a boundary line between their "civilization" and "Native American Territory"—defined as "any lands beyond the heads or sources of any of the rivers which fall into the Atlantic Ocean from the West or Northwest." By 1840, this line, inherited by the U.S., the Permanent Boundary, separates white controlled, "civilized" lands from the "Great American Desert". It runs approximately from the Gulf of Mexico to Lake Michigan via the Mississippi River.
1769-1834	The first Spanish mission is constructed in California. By 1830, disease, brutality and other dietary and cultural changes had reduced the coastal native population from seventy thousand to twenty-four thousand. By 1840, six thousand Mission Native Americans were left, most of them serfs on large ranches. During the mission period, thousands of Hoopa, Kumeyaay, Cahuilla, Pauma, Malki, Cupa, and other tribal people, were forced to convert, labor, and radically change their identity. They were confined and punished, and eventually became sapped by disease and died.
1775	The first of 374 treaties is signed, recognizing the rights of Native Americans to land they occupy (the last, in 1869, forced Chief Joseph and his Nez Perce people off their lands); few are upheld. Massachusetts legislation was signed that promised a bounty for every male "Indian" scalp obtained.
1776	1776 marks an important moment in American history; the signing of the Declaration of Independence. However, this event did not liberate the Native Americans from violent treatment, nor from the dominating structure that the colonists imposed upon them. For example, Howard Zinn claims that a section from the Declaration charges the King of England with "inciting slave rebellions and Indian attacks." It reads: "[H]e has excited domestic insurrections amongst us, and has endeavored to bring on the inhabitants of our frontiers, the merciless Indian savages, whose known rule of warfare is undistinguished destruction of all ages, sexes, and conditions"(74). The reference to Native Americans as "merciless Indian savages" and the fact that the Declaration condemns the King of England for uniting with them are both indicators that the feeling of white supremacy was ever-present among the colonists and that the Declaration did not liberate Native Americans from the colonists' violent rule.
1776-1860's	By 1800, the number of Native Americans had been reduced to about 600,000, due to policies of forced displacement and war. The white population of the U.S., however, increased to over 6 million in 1810, and the black population reached approximately one and half million
1778	First treaty between U.S. and Native Americans .
1779	George Washington, because of his scorched earth campaign against Iroquois towns, becomes known as the "town destroyer". Upon his inauguration, he is the richest man in the new U.S.
1783	American Revolutionary War ends.
1787	The Northwest Ordinance created the basis for the settlement of whites beyond the Alleghenies. It provided that the Native Americans' land should never be taken from them without their consent.
1789	The U.S. War Department is created, in part, to handle all Native American matters.
1791	Nations/tribes in Ohio led by Miami Little Turtle annihilated the army of General Arthur Saint Clair, Governor of the Northwest Territory, near present-day Fort Wayne, Indiana. This has been called the worst defeat in U.S. history.
1795	The Treaty of Greenville (Ohio) cedes nearly two-thirds of Ohio, part of Indiana, and other sites, including those of Chicago, Detroit, and Toledo. For this, the Native Americans receive \$20,000 worth of goods and the promise of \$9500 in annuities. Alcohol, hunger, and the threat of military force hasten the Native Americans' decision.

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1803	U.S. Louisiana purchase for \$15 million
1804	Over the course of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, the Corps of Discovery would come into contact with nearly 50 Native American Nations/tribes. Quickly, the captains learned how many different definitions there really were for the word "Native American." The Mandans lived in earth lodges, farmed corn and were amenable to trade with America. The Teton Sioux slept in tepees, hunted buffalo and guarded their territory fiercely against anyone who passed through, whether foreign or Native American. Some Nations/tribes had never seen a white or black man before Lewis and Clark. Others spoke bits of English and wore hats and coats they received from European sea captains.
1810	Tecumtha, a Shawnee born in the Ohio region, tries to organize his people, saying,
1810	Under duress, the Cherokee, Choctaw, Creek, and Chickasaw of the Southeast and the Seminoles of Florida are forced to turn over their lands to Whites and relocate west.
1811	Native Americans defeated in Battle of Tippecanoe in Indiana Territory
1812	First Seminole War
1814	Creek Native American War
1819	Congress sets up a program for the "civilization" of Native Americans. The funds are distributed among mission groups, enabling them to widen education programs
1823	The U.S. Supreme Court upholds the concept of "right of discovery", claiming "discovery gave exclusive title to those who made it", providing legal justification for the confiscation of Native American lands. In <i>Johnson v. McIntosh</i> , the Supreme Court concluded that tribal sovereignty, although impaired by European colonization, cannot be dismissed.
1823	Chief Justice Marshall, in <i>Worcester v. Georgia</i> , declares that state laws "can have no force" on Indian reservations without the consent of Congress, stating "Indian nations has always been considered as distinct, independent political communities, retaining their original neutral rights as undisputed possessors of the soil". This was the origin of the legal rights of tribes to operate tribally owned companies that are exempt from federal taxes. Indeed, Marshall stated, "In the establishment of these relations [between Europeans and Indians], the rights of the original inhabitants, were in no instance, entirely disregarded. They were admitted to be the rightful occupants of the soil, with the legal as well as just claim to retain possession of it, and to use it according to their own discretion."
1824	In 1824, the War Department subsumes the newly created Bureau of Native American Affairs.
1830	Washington Irving publishes the first biography in English of Columbus, mostly laudatory— <i>Life and Voyages of Christopher Columbus</i> . Photography is invented
1830-1838	At the request of President Jackson, Congress passes the Indian Removal Act, forcing 92 percent of all Native Americans living east of the Mississippi River to Native American territory west of the Mississippi. The Cherokees, Chickasaws, Yuchis, Creeks, Choctaws, and Alabamas were forced to give up their lands in the southeast. This is known as the "The Trail of Tears". Over 30% of the Cherokees die from disease and exposure in forced migration at gun point as they are moved from their homes in Georgia, the Carolinas, Alabama, Mississippi and Tennessee to Native American Territory (Oklahoma); the reservation system begins.
1831	Nat Turner leads a slave rebellion, inspiring fear of Native Americans and Blacks. George Catlin and Karl Bodmer both paint Native American portraits and landscapes showing the people as they were before White contact. The U.S. Supreme Court establishes that, in the words of Chief Justice John Marshall, "(the Native Americans') relations to the United States resembles that of a ward to his guardian." In <i>Cherokee Nation v. Georgia</i> ruled that Native American Nations/tribes were "a distinct political society, separated from others, capable of managing [their] own affairs and governing [themselves]."
1832	In <i>Worcester v. Georgia</i> , the third case of the trilogy, the court held that tribal sovereign powers were not relinquished when Native American Nations/tribes exchanged land for peace or protection.
1834	Black Hawk, famed for the resistance he led against settlers in Illinois, writes in his autobiography,
1835	Second Seminole War in Florida
1842	Seminoles moved to Native American Territory The opening of the Oregon Trail, the first interstate highway, thousands of settlers, with their grass-consuming cattle, their earth-rutting wagons, their befouling garbage and debris, interrupt the buffalo migrations, and spread disease and corruption.
1845-1870	The ethnic group most persecuted in California during the gold rush years were Native Americans. They were murdered everywhere in the States, but only on the West Coast did this racial violence bear the traits of organized civilian campaigns. Although soldiers were usually not involved in these murders and massacres, they sometimes led groups of miners or companies against the Native Americans. Before the gold rush, Native Americans outnumbered whites by nearly ten to one.

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	By the early 1850s, whites outnumbered Native Americans by perhaps two to one. In the quarter century between 1845 and 1870, the California Native Americans population had declined from approximately 150,000 (which was only half the number of Native Americans before white contact) to 30,000. Between 1848 and 1880, whites killed at least 4,500 Native Americans. These numbers do not include the Native Americans who were driven away or starved to death. Exploitation of the Native Americans labor force in mines, destruction of their food supply by hunting and mining, for racial and economic motives were the main reasons for the severe decline of the Native Americans population.
1849-1885	There were 15 million buffalo on the Plains in 2 great herds. By 1880 the southern herd was wiped out and by 1885 the northern herd was almost exterminated. The slaughter of the buffalo by white hunters destroyed the Native Americans' basis of subsistence.
1851	The Treaty of Fort Laramie with the Plains Native Americans defined their territories. In return for ending hostilities, Native Americans were promised annuities, later cut down by the U.S. Senate. All Sioux land in Iowa given to the United States.
1854	Chief Seattle (or Sealth, of the Suquamish) speaks of the interconnectedness of all life: <i>Teach your children what we have taught our children, that the earth is our mother. Whatever befalls the earth befalls the people of the earth. If you spit upon the ground, you spit upon yourselves. This we know. The earth does not belong to people; people belong to the earth.</i> His teaching becomes one of the most quoted 150 years later. But his land is taken by the Army, promised return when the military establishment to be built there is no longer needed. The land is never returned. It is developed later into private residences. Indian Appropriation Act. Congress has the authority to establish reservations (move specific nations to specific places—mostly south central area (representing Oklahoma).
1856	Connecticut sells off 600 acres of the Pequot reservation without permission.
1861	The Paiutes in the Great Basin country (Nevada) are forced onto reservations, as Whites stream into the gold-rich lands. Tupi, a Paiute living in the 1980's, recounts family history: <i>(The soldiers) penned up the people like cattle here, took them all off to stockades up in Yakima, including (my great-great-grandfather) Horse's sister. And on the march, they shot down any lady who had to pee or go to potty; they just had to shit like geese right where they were.</i>
1861	<i>That was around 1861-62.</i> (quoted by Mattheissen in <i>Native American Country</i> ). Yet a historical marker in the 1980's near the Paiute reservation asserts that some Native Americans returned there in the mid-1860's and "settled contentedly... preferring the generosity and kindness of the military to the Native American agents at Yakima. They aided the local military against the Bannocks and others resisting Caucasian takeover of traditional Native American lands." Native American units fought on both sides during the Civil War
1862	The Santee Sioux of Minnesota, having suffered since 1837 massive loss of land, rise up against white settlers, killing approximately 800 in one month. Some Sioux flee to Canada, others move or are forced west. The Homestead Act brought vast numbers of settlers on to public domain lands in KS and NE. Many settled on land belonging to Native American Nations/tribes and were certified as owners of the illegally taken land.
1863	The Navajo Long Walk began. Christopher "Kit" Carson forces eighty-five hundred men, women, and children on a 250 mile march to eastern New Mexico from their home in Arizona, slaughtering every sheep and cutting down every Navajo cornstalk and fruit tree. The Navajos faced freezing weather, kidnapping, hunger, dysentery, and death along the 350-mile route. They surrendered to the U.S. Army after a scorched earth policy destroyed their livestock and grain fields. They were imprisoned until 1868, and then allowed to return to their homeland, now reduced to 1/5 the size of the original territory. The Apache are likewise decimated.
1864	Reversing previous policies, a federal law was passed that allowed Native Americans to testify in trials involving white people The Sand Creek massacre, over two hundred peaceful Cheyenne in Colorado are killed by the Cavalry. Colonel J. M. Chivington, leading the assault, allegedly cries "Kill and scalp all, big and little, nits make lice". In the East, many deplore the cruel killing and advocate instead compulsory assimilation into White society.
1867	The U.S. bought Alaska from Russia and added Inuit, Aleut, and Native American populations.
1868	The Fort Laramie Treaty establishes the Great Sioux Reservation, from the Missouri River west to about the middle of what is now Wyoming, including the Black Hills, sacred lands of the Lakota, "as long as the grass is green and the waters flow". The song "Ten Little Injuns" was published by Septimus Winner in 1868 for a minstrel show.
1869-76	200 pitched battles between Native Americans and U.S. Cavalry
1870's	Quakers, among other Christian groups, supervise missions, establish boarding schools, and provide money for NAs.
1871	Congress ends treaty making, with the Indian Appropriation Act: <i>No Native American nation or tribe within the territory of the United States shall be acknowledged and recognized as an independent nation, tribe, or power with whom the United States may contract by treaty.</i> Simultaneously, Congress voices its responsibility to honor all already "lawfully made" treaties.

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1874	Gold is verified in the Black Hills by Custer's expedition. The federal government breaks the Fort Laramie Treaty (see 1868) to remove the Black Hills from Native American control, a reduction to one quarter the original size. "You give us presents, and then take our land. That produces war." complains the Cheyenne spokesman, Buffalo Chief. Native Americans are forced onto reservations. Many resist.
1876	The Battle of the Little Big Horn, led by Crazy Horse, Two Moons, and other war chiefs, a combined force of between twelve and fifteen thousand Teton, Santee and Yankton Sioux, Cheyenne, Arapaho, Gros Ventre, and Assiniboine successfully resist forced removal to a reservation and kill Custer and about 200 of his Seventh Cavalry. Sitting Bull is present as a medicine man, and Black Elk as a 12 year old boy.
1877	Crazy Horse is murdered by Native American police, instigated by the U.S. government. Chief Joseph and his Nez Perce people surrender at Bear Paw Mountain in Montana, <i>"My heart is sick and sad, I will fight no more, forever."</i> A 500 mile forced march by the Poncas in Nebraska is the first Native American grievance to receive sympathetic national attention. Nez Perce leave Idaho for Canada On September 28, 1877, in the East Room of the White House, Arapaho Chief Sharp Nose presented a pipe and tobacco pouch to President Rutherford Hayes. This was President Hayes's first meeting with a Native American delegation, which consisted of three Arapaho and twenty Sioux people.
1878	U.S. government established Native American police forces for reservation supervision.
1879	Captain Richard Henry Pratt founded Carlisle Native American School in Penn. In an abandoned military barracks. The school was the first federally funded, nonreservation boarding school for Native Americans. Colonel Richard Pratt, founder of the school and a former Native American fighter, announces, <i>"I believe in immersing the Native Americans in our civilization and when we get them under, holding them there until they are thoroughly soaked."</i> It isolated Native Americans from family and reservation life, including language, traditional clothing and hair styles, etc. During vacations Pratt sent students to live and work with white families to increase assimilation.
1880's	The last of the buffalo are shot from trains, killed for tongues and hides and to wipe out a main source of food, clothing, and ceremonial objects for the Plains Native Americans; over three and a half million buffalo are slaughtered in two years. The height of the reservation movement and the Native American wars. A string of massacres including the Tlingit in Angoon Alaska, their village bombarded by U.S. naval warships.
1883	Sarah Winnemucca publishes her book, <i>Life Among the Paiutes</i> , a tough-speaking chronicle of her dealings with Native American agents in Oregon and Nevada. She lectures widely throughout the East, detailing duplicity and greed. <i>The agent sold an Native American man some powder. He crossed the river, when he was met by one of the agent's men, who shot him dead on the spot, because he had the powder... Brother and I thought he did wrong to sell the powder to one of our men, knowing it was against the law... This is the way all the Native American agents get rich...</i>
1886	A federal policy forbade Native American language books or instruction Geronimo(Apache) surrenders after 15 years.
1887	The General Allotment or Dawes Act introduces private ownership of land. This Act tried to break up tribally-owned lands and divide them among individuals, with the "surplus" (unappropriated lands on reservations) sold to whites, sometimes at very low prices, by unscrupulous public officials. A Commissioner of Native American Affairs proclaims, <i>The (Native American) must be imbued with the exalting egotism of American civilization so that he will say 'I' instead of 'We,' and 'This is mine' instead of 'This is ours.'</i> Earlier, a Native American agent declares, <i>The common field is the seat of barbarism and the separate farm (is) the door to civilization.</i> In a later analysis, <i>118 reservations were divided up; 38 million acres were taken outright by the government, and 22 million were declared 'surplus' and opened for settlement. An additional 23 million acres were sold between 1887 and 1934 by Native Americans who were forced to alleviate poverty or pay debts, and 3.7 million were sold by Native Americans who inherited allotments before 1934, often for the same reasons. In total, the 'help' promised by the Allotment Act cost Native Americans almost two-thirds of the land they had owned in 1887: 90 million of about 150 million (Wasichu, Johansen and Maestas, 1980's).</i> This act destroyed tribal existence and gave Native American agents tremendous power over individual Native Americans. The law resulted in the transfer of some 90 million acres from Native American to non-Native American owners in the next 45 years.

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1890	<p><b>Summer and Fall 1890</b> - The Ghost Dance appears and spreads to 12 states and 30 Nations/tribes. It was inspired by the teachings of Wovoka, a Paiute visionary from Nevada. Ghost Dancing was an attempt to resist white incursion through a combination of Christian and traditional Native American beliefs, non-violently, through a special form of dancing and singing that is supposed to roll back the earth, taking with it the settlers and their Iron Horses and Cavalry, and bringing back the buffalo, ancestors and native ways.</p> <p>Fearful Whites demanded the Army control the Native Americans. The settlers believed they were about to be attacked. Federal troops flooded the Great Sioux Reservation. Headlines declared "REDSKINS BLOODY WORK, OLD SITTING BULL STIRRING UP THE EXCITED REDSKINS".</p> <p>The U.S. government again unilaterally changes the treaty to reduce the Sioux Reservation to about 1/5 its original size.</p> <p><b>December 15</b> - Sitting Bull, a Lakota chief, is killed by Native American Police under the direction of the Army. He claims, <i>I do not wish to be shut up in a corral. It is bad for young men to be fed by an agent. It makes them lazy and drunken. All (reservation) Native Americans I have seen are worthless. They are neither red warriors nor white farmers.</i> His people flee their homes for Pine Ridge Agency to counsel with Red Cloud and others.</p> <p><b>December 22</b> - Sitting Bull's people reach the encampment of the aged and ill Lakota peace chief, BigFoot. Both groups join to walk and ride to Pine Ridge Agency about 150 miles south.</p> <p><b>December 29</b> - After being intercepted by the Seventh Cavalry, Custer's old unit, and forced to camp at Wounded Knee Creek, surrounded by hundreds of soldiers and their newly designed, not fully field-tested, rapid firing Hotchkiss cannon, the Lakotas are required to give up weapons. women are searched under blankets, bedrolls, and clothing. All implements such as awls, knives, as well as weapons, are confiscated. Firing begins. Within two hours, nearly 300 Lakota are murdered, mostly women, children, elders. This is the last of the outright massacres. The U.S. awards Medals of Honor to 18 soldiers.</p>
1892	Cherokee land in Indiana opened to settlement
1893	400 years of Columbus are celebrated at a massive event in Chicago, Revelry and festivities commemorate his legacy; not a contrary voice is heard. Columbus Day is proclaimed a national holiday, and in honor of the celebration, the Pledge of Allegiance is written. Native American people build authentic dwellings and dance in regalia. 1900— —
1900	Between 1776 and 1900, settlers, government officials, ranchers, farmers and other Whites reduce Native American land holdings by about 95 percent, from 3,000,000 square miles to 200,000 (reservation lands are larger, but only small portions of them are controlled by Native Americans—the difference between "reservations" and "Native American holdings"). Diseases, introduced by Europeans, sometimes deliberately—smallpox, cholera, measles, tuberculosis, scarlet fever, and influenza—and warfare, starvation, and slavery shrivel the size of the North American Native population to about one tenth what it was in 1492—from an estimated two million to about 237,000. Numerically and culturally, this is the nadir; people assume the Native Americans will either disappear or assimilate.
1901	Five Civilized Tribes granted U.S. citizenship
1902	The U.S. Commissioner of Native American Affairs prohibited "wearing of long hair by the male Native American population"
1903	The descendents and community of Wounded Knee victims erect a memorial at the grave site.
1904	In eleven years, a tribally owned area of the Pine Ridge Lakota reservation of more than 2,500,000 acres is reduced to less than 150,000 acres for the Nation/tribe collectively. The balance is assigned to individual Native Americans or sold to whites as surplus.
1907	<p>Native American Territory becomes eastern half of Oklahoma Edward Curtis publishes his first volumes of photographs of North American Natives, a nostalgic and elegiac view.</p> <p><i>Alone with my campfire, I gaze about on the completely circling hill-top, crested with countless campfires, around which are gathered the people of a dying race. The gloom of the approaching night wraps itself about me. I feel that the life of these children of nature is like the dying day drawing to its end; only off in the West is the glorious light of the setting sun, telling us, perhaps, of light after darkness.</i></p>
1911	"Pan-Native Americanism" begins, October 12th, in Columbus Ohio, as fifty Native Americans launch the Society of American Indians. The Society later strongly opposed the segregation of 12,000 Native American soldiers during World War I.
1918	<p>The Native American Church, blending Native American and Christian spirituality and using peyote, is organized and spreads rapidly. It advocates family cooperation and pan-Native American unity. By 1991 this right is rescinded by the Supreme Court.</p> <p>Carlisle Schools close.</p>
1924	U.S. citizenship was granted to Native Americans, giving them dual citizenship as members of Nations/tribes and as citizens of the United States.



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1934	<p>The Indian Reorganization Act of 1934, also known as the Wheeler-Howard Act or informally, the <i>Indian New Deal</i>, was U.S. federal legislation which secured new rights for Native Americans, including Alaskan natives. This included a reversal of the Dawes Act's privatization of common holdings of American Indians and a return to local self-government on a tribal basis. It also restored to Native Americans management of their assets, mostly land, and included provisions for building a sound economic foundation for Indian reservation inhabitants.</p> <p>The act did not require tribes to select a constitution. However, if the tribe chose to, the constitution had to; (1) allow the tribal council to employ legal counsel, (2) prohibit the tribal council from engaging any land transitions without majority approval of the tribe, and, (3) authorize the tribal council to negotiate with the Federal, State, and local governments. Evidently some of these restrictions were eliminated by the Native American Technical Corrections Act of 2003. The act slowed a practice of assigning tribal lands to individual tribal members, and reduced the divestiture of native holdings that were being lost through a practice of checkerboard land sales to non-members within tribal areas.</p>
1937	The Native American Reorganization Act forcibly replaces traditional tribal governance (by consensus) with representative democracy (by majority vote). Rivalries between traditional and assimilated Native American people are thereby fueled.
1942	The Aleuts of Pribilof Islands are forced to evacuate for military reasons, after the Japanese landed on Kiska and Attu. The Aleuts often had 2 hours to evacuate and returned to villages vandalized by occupying American forces.
1942-1945	The end of World War II—the 25,000 Native Americans of the various branches of the military go home (numbering among them Navajos serving as "code-crackers" using transmissions derived from Navajo language phrases). Many of the 40,000 Native Americans working in war-related industry lose their jobs.
1944	National Congress of American Indians (NCAI) About 100 Native American people met to create the nation's first large-scale national organization designed to monitor federal policies. Today, (2006) over 250 member Nations/tribes throughout the U.S. work to secure for Native American peoples the rights and benefits they are entitled; to enlighten the public toward a better understanding of Native American people; to preserve rights under Native American treaties or agreements with the U.S.; and to promote the common welfare of the Native Americans and Alaska Natives.
1946	The Indian Claims Commission Act, in theory a means of redress of land claims, but in practice few lands are returned to native people.
1948	<p>The Corps of Engineers begins construction of the 245-foot-high Oake Dam in SD. The Standing Rock and Cheyenne Sioux Reservations lost a total of 160,889 acres</p> <p>Federal court in New Mexico protects the Native Americans right to vote under the 15<sup>th</sup> Amendment.</p> <p>Native Americans allowed to vote in Arizona.</p>
1950's	A package of "Termination" legislation is passed, seeking to end the Federal Government's support for native people stipulated by 372 treaties and more than 5000 laws and presidential edicts. Native Americans are to be again "relocated" from reservations to urban areas to assimilate Native American people into White society. By 1960 one third of the 525,000 Native Americans are in cities. Between 1948 and 1957 Native Americans lose approximately 3,300,000 acres.
1952	The Bureau of Native American Affairs "relocation program" moved 17,000 Native Americans to such cities as Los Angeles, Chicago, Denver, San Francisco, and Oakland
1953	Liquor Prohibition repealed for Native Americans.
1954	<p>Congress passes Public Law 280, empowering any state legislature to take over civil and criminal jurisdiction on Native American reservations without tribal consent. This put an end to Native Americans' authority to police themselves.</p> <p>In 1954, the United States Department of Interior began implementing termination and relocation phases of Indian Reorganization Act of 1934. Among other effects, the termination resulted in the legal dismantling of 61 tribal nations within the United States.</p>
1960	<p>A meeting of over 500 Native Americans representing more than 65 Nations/tribes is held at the University of Chicago to discuss what the Kennedy Administration might do for and with Native Americans. And another meeting later at Gallup, New Mexico, where more activist-oriented leaders meet. They form the National Native American Youth Council which responds to local crises while speaking out and acting with a Pan-Native American awareness.</p> <p>.3% of the population is considered Native American/Indigenous – 88.6% is considered white</p>
1961	<p>Basil Williams, President of the Allegany Seneca, appealed to President John F. Kennedy to stop the Kinzua Dam. His plea was ignored and the dam flooded ~10,000 acres of habitable Seneca lands along the Allegheny River in NY and forced 1/3 of the population to relocate, violating a 1794 treaty, the government's oldest active treaty with the Six Nations. The dam inundated the Cornplanter Grant, a holy shrine.</p> <p>Nearly 800 Native American people from 90 Nations/tribes gathered at the Native American Chicago Conference and prepared the <i>Declaration of Native American Purpose</i> which addressed the inherent right of all people to retain spiritual and cultural values, and called for action toward formulating and adopting policies and programs empowering Native American people.</p>



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1962	Native Americans allowed to vote in New Mexico.
1963	President Johnson presented Annie Dodge Wauneka with the Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian award, for her accomplishments in eradicating tuberculosis among Native people. To date, she is the 1st and only NA so honored.
1968	Native American Civil Rights Act. This Act of Congress revised Public Law 280 by requiring states to obtain tribal consent prior to extending any legal jurisdiction over an Native American reservation.
1969	<p>Four hundred treaties that were signed to protect the Native Americans had been broke.</p> <p>The newly formed American Indian Movement (AIM), organized in midwestern cities by Dennis Banks, Clyde Bellecourt, and others, represents a militant voice for Native American rights. One program, modeled after the Black Panthers, monitors police. AIM is among a large group of Alcatraz occupiers, holding the island for 19 months, demanding attention to Native American health, education, housing, and culture</p> <p>Members of Native Americans of All Nations/tribes occupied Alcatraz Island in San Francisco, claiming the right under an 1868 Sioux Treaty that said unused federal land would revert to Native Americans. The Native Americans stayed on the island until June 1971. The Alcatraz occupation brought together hundreds of Native American people who came to live together on the island and thousands more who identified with the call for self-determination, autonomy, and respect for Native American Culture.</p> <p>The Navajo Community College on the Navajo Reservation in AZ is the first 4-year college established and controlled by a Native American Nation/tribe.</p>
1970	<p>In New England, Plymouth MA officials invite a Wampanoag man, Frank James, to speak at Thanksgiving festivities. He condemns white destruction of native culture, and the National Day of Mourning, a yearly observance commemorating the social and political struggles of native people, is born. And on the Crow Native American Reservation in Montana, the first meeting of the North American Indian Ecumenical Movement affirms the role of Native American prophecy, the connection between Native Americans and the earth, and the importance of spiritual practices, use of native languages, and the struggle against substance abuse.</p> <p>On Black Mesa in Arizona, Hopi and Navajo people are pitted against each other by the opening of strip-mines by Peabody Coal Company.</p> <p>President Richard M. Nixon delivered a speech to Congress, which denounced past federal policies, pronounced the end of termination, and called for a new era of self-determination for Native American peoples.</p> <p>President Nixon signs the law restoring the sacred Blue Lake to the people to Taos Pueblo, 64 years after it was taken from them and made part of Carson National Forest</p> <p>The Black Hills Alliance is formed. <i>The Black Hills are an oasis in the Great Plains, a source of water and life to the whole region. They lie at the center of North America, and they are a spiritual center for the Lakota Nation; for as long as the old people can remember, there have been prayers and songs to 'Paha Sapa, our life blood.' Farmers and ranchers as well as Native Americans, all people who live with the earth instead of exploiting her, can also understand the sacredness of the Hills. For such people, the Black Hills is not just another mine site with a 'potential' for energy production, as it is for the multinational corporations and the U.S. government. Paha Sapa is the great battlefield in the energy wars against the Native Americans, and the new Native Americans are white as well as red.</i> (quoted by Matthiessen in <i>Native American Country</i>)</p> <p>Someone else claims, <i>Red people go up there for our vision quests, and white ones can go worship at Mount Rushmore.</i></p>
1971	President Nixon signed into law the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, granting Alaska's 60,000 Native Americans, Inuits, and Aleuts title to 44 million acres of their ancient homeland and \$962.5 million in settlement of the century-old question of Native land rights
1972	<p>Indian Education Act. This statute authorized funding for special bilingual and bicultural programs, culturally relevant teaching materials, and appropriate training and hiring of counselors. It also created an office of Native American Education in the U.S. Department of Education.</p> <p>The Trail of Broken Treaties, a cross-country motor caravan to advocate Native American sovereignty, results in the occupation of the Bureau of Native American Affairs offices in Washington DC when discussions between B.I.A. officials and caravan leaders break down.</p>
Feb. 27, 1973	Many people from the Pine Ridge Reservation and supporters, led by AIM, occupy Wounded Knee to bring attention to corrupt and unjust treatment by tribal, state and federal governments. Wounded Knee is again ringed by high-tech weaponry, this time in the hands of the combined forces of local and federal agencies. Several die, several are wounded, the violence on Lakota lands intensifies.

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1973-1976	At least sixty-one violent deaths occur on the Pine Ridge reservation. All but several of those deaths were those of AIM activists or supporters. Using only the (conservative) figure of documented deaths, the death rate was 170 per 100,000. By comparison, Detroit, the reputed "murder capital of the U.S.," had a rate of 20.2 per 100,000 in 1974, Chicago had 15.9, New York City, 16.3, Washington D.C., 13.4, Los Angeles, 12.9, Seattle, 5.6, and Boston, 5.6., while the U.S. average was 9.7. (Wasichu)
1975	<p>Shootout between American Indian Movement members and FBI agents on the Pine Ridge Reservation in South Dakota. Two FBI agents entered the Pine Ridge Reservation claiming they were looking for a tribal member on theft and assault charges. Shots were fired under confusing circumstances, resulting in the death of two FBI agents and one AIM member. AIM activist Leonard Peltier was arrested, tried and convicted for the deaths of the FBI agents.</p> <p>President Ford signs the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, which mandates that the federal government permit Native Americans to administer their own federal programs if they desired to do so and re-establishes the development of reservations.</p> <p>After non-English speakers testify about the discrimination they face at the polls, Congress votes to expand the U. S. Voting Rights Act to require language assistance at polling stations. Native Americans, Asian Americans, Alaska Natives and Latinos benefit most from this provision. The original Act, passed in 1965, applied only to blacks and Puerto Ricans.</p>
1976	A lawsuit filed to recover the 600 acres of the Pequot reservation sold without permission in 1856, resulted in a \$700,000 settlement.
1978	<p>The Longest Walk begins in San Francisco when 180 Native Americans set out to walk to Washington, DC to commemorate all the forced walks Native Americans made in the past.</p> <p>President Carter signs the Indian Child Welfare Act, protecting the integrity of Native American families by eliminating abusive child welfare practices that result in unwarranted Native American parent-child separations. This is a federal law that mandates that placements of Native American children can be governed by their Nation/tribe, whose authority was legislated by the United States government. By this Act, Nations/tribes are given the authority to care for Native American children, to intercede in court cases regarding adoptive placement of Native American children, and to place Native American children with tribal members or with members of other Nations/tribes.</p> <p>The American Indian Religious Freedom Act officially guarantees First Amendment religious freedom protection for NAs.</p>
1980	.6% of the U.S. population is considered Native American/Indigenous, 6.4% Hispanic – 79.6 is considered white Not Hispanic
1980's	<p>Penobscot and Passamaquoddy Nations/tribes in Maine recovered title to almost two-thirds of the state, yielding more than 300,000 acres and a \$27 million trust fund. Native people and their supporters close the Dickson Mounds, in Illinois, open grave sites for decades on display to the public.</p> <p>Reagan begins a series of social service cutbacks that drastically hurts native people. In 1983 alone, Native American aid is slashed from \$3.5 billion to \$2 billion.</p> <p>Partly as a result of the cutbacks, Native Americans initiate gambling on the reservations.</p>
1982	<i>Seminole Tribe v. Butterworth</i> Supreme Court decision. The Court ruled that Nations/tribes have the right to create <i>gambling enterprises</i> on their land, even if such facilities are prohibited by the state. The ruling enabled reservations to establish casinos and gave greater authority for tribal governments to levy taxes, own assets and create judiciaries.
1983	<p>The U.S. 7<sup>th</sup> Circuit Court of Appeals found that the Lac Courte Oreilles Band of Chippewas of WI retained their hunting, fishing, trapping, and gathering rights when they signed the treaties of 1937, 1842, 1854. The U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear an appeal of what became known as the Voight decision</p> <p>Federal recognition was received by the Narragansett and the Mashantucket Pequots, who own Foxwoods</p> <p>In <i>Rice v. Rehner</i>, Supreme Court ruled that states can regulate the sale of alcohol by requiring tribes to purchase state permits to sell packaged liquors on the reservation (eroding the special tax status of tribes).</p>
1985	Anticipating the upcoming Wounded Knee Massacre centennial, Lakota leaders organize the first of 5 BigFoot Memorial Rides. Approximately 20 riders and 15 supporters retrace the path of BigFoot's people, 150 mi. over the wintry plains.
1987	<p>In <i>California et al v. Cabazon Band of Mission Native Americans et al.</i>, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld the right of the Cabazon Reservation in Riverside to hold high-stakes bingo games despite the state's contention that CA gambling laws apply on Native American reservations.</p> <p>President Reagan signs a bill establishing the Trail of Tears as a National Historic Trail</p> <p>The Wampanoag gain the status of federal recognition, the only federally recognized Nation/tribe in Massachusetts.</p>
1988	Indian Gaming Regulatory Act is passed by Congress. This statute affirmed the right of Nations/tribes to conduct gaming on Native American lands, but made it subject to tribal/state compact negotiations for some types of gaming.

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1990	<p>President Bush signs the Native American Language Act into law, reversing past policy that suppressed and exterminated Native American languages and cultures.</p> <p>President Bush signs the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act which requires federal agencies and private museums receiving federal funding to inventory their collections of human remains, funerary objects, sacred objects, and objects of cultural patrimony. Ancestral remains and objects must be returned to requesting NA Nations/tribes proving ownership. The law represents a major shift away from viewing NA human remains as "archaeological resources" or "federal property".</p> <p>The final BigFoot Ride, an estimated 250 riders and 300 supporters from over 30 Native American nations and 10 European and Asian nations. The temperature plummets to 25 below; the attendant suffering helps unite the Riders and supporters with the ancestors, and strengthen the "Wiping of the Tears and Mending of the Sacred Hoop".</p> <p>Native American Reservations begin opening Casinos.</p> <p>Indian Arts &amp; Crafts Act is passed and prohibits misrepresentation in the marketing of Indian arts and crafts products within the United States.</p>
1992	<p>500 years of Columbus. Many spiritually-based walks and runs commemorate the Quincentennial.</p> <p>After a successful bingo operation, an incredibly profitable gambling casino was opened in 1992 which has made the Mashantucket Pequot the wealthiest group of Native Americans in the United States.</p>
1993	<p>The first of the next 500 years. The United Nations declares this, The Year of the Indigenous Peoples.</p> <p>Navajo sued federal government for \$600 million for breach of trust, claiming that the Secretary of Interior during Reagan administration colluded with Peabody Coal Company to cheat tribes out of millions of dollars in royalties. They lost the case in 2003 when the Supreme Court ruled in favor of the federal government.</p> <p>Many Navajo (Dineh) die from hanta viral pulmonary syndrome (hantavirus)β carried by rodents.</p>
1994	<p>Executive Memorandum, April 29. President Bill Clinton issued this statement <i>"to clarify our responsibility to ensure that the federal Government operates within a government-to government relationship with federally recognized Native American tribes. I am strongly committed to building a more effective day-to day working relationship reflecting respect for the rights of self-government due the sovereign tribal governments"</i>.</p> <p>Congress enacted the American Indian Trust Fund Reform Act in an effort to correct the long record of disregard for the rights, and funds of Native American tribal members.</p> <p>President Clinton invites leaders of all 547 federally recognized tribes to White House to identify issues for follow-up conference.</p> <p>American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978 amended to protect religious use of peyote.</p> <p>European Parliament passes unanimous resolution supporting executive clemency for Leonard Peltier, second resolution passed in 1999.</p>
1995-1996	<p>Although it is proven once again at parole hearing that no concrete evidence exists against Leonard Peltier for death of two FBI agents in 1975, the parole board decides not to grant parole.</p>
1996	<p>President Bill Clinton authorized a White House Initiative on Tribal Colleges and Universities within the U.S. Department of Education to continue the support and development of tribal colleges into the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.</p> <p>In addition he issued Executive Order on Native American Sacred Sites to affirm the American Indian Religious Freedom Act policy and protection of Native American sacred sites.</p> <p>Clinton also declared November of each year to be National American Indian Heritage Month.</p> <p>Canada celebrates its first National Aboriginal Day on June 21.</p>
1997	<p>Native Americans supplied 32 million tons of coal, 270 million mcf of gas, 15 million barrels of oil and 5.5 million tons of construction aggregate. In the same year tribal businesses contributed to the lumber industry by harvesting 650 million board feet of timber. They have reforested more than 14,000 acres and completed forest improvements on an additional 66,625 acres of land. Native Americans also have made an impact on the fishery programs, and release more than 40 million young salmon and steelhead trout in the Pacific Northwest every year.</p> <p>First Native American Music Awards are held.</p> <p>Mohegan and Pequot, who run successful casinos, return almost \$3 million in federal grant money with request that it be given to poorer tribes.</p>
1998	<p>Carl Gorman died in February, 1998, he was 90 and the oldest of the 400 Navajo code talkers. He was the father of artist R.C. Gorman from Taos, N.M.</p> <p>In April of 1998 the Massachusetts Center for Native American Awareness was incorporated as a private nonprofit organization. (Claudia is currently on the governing board!) The website is <a href="http://www.mcnaa.org">www.mcnaa.org</a></p> <p>Carving of Crazy Horse, started in 1939, unveiled in Black Hills of South Dakota, 15 miles from Mount Rushmore.</p> <p>Mashantucket Pequot open \$1193 million museum and research center.</p>
1999	<p>After International Whaling Commission approved their application in 1997, Makah of Washington State reinstate</p>

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	<p>traditional practice of whaling for first time in 70 years, despite protests by groups protecting whales.</p> <p>Federal judge holds in contempt two Cabinet secretaries who oversee Indian trust accounts, citing official deceit.</p>
2000	<p>.1% of the U.S. population is considered Native American/Indigenous, 1% is considered Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian, 12.5% Hispanic – 75.1 is considered white Not Hispanic.</p> <p>Sand Creek National Monument Act. This law authorized the site of the Sand Creek Massacre of Cheyenne and Arapaho people by U.S. and Colorado soldiers to be turned into a national monument park. An earlier law apologized for the Massacre and directed that a study report on the exact location of this site. The site is dedicated in 2007.</p> <p>Montana Board of Public Education reforms curriculum to ensure that students and teacher learn more about Native American history and culture; number of Native American teachers is to be increased and Native language program will be expanded.</p> <p>Federal government issues dollar coin with image of Shoshone woman Sacajawea.</p> <p>Last Navajo (Dineh) families evicted from big Mountain in Arizona.</p> <p>Chippewa (Ojibway) Winona LaDuke runs as vice presidential candidate on Green Party ticket with Ralph Nader.</p> <p>According to the US Census Bureau, native Americans have the highest poverty rate in the nation (at 25.7%). Only 18% of Native Indians had any income from interest, dividends or rent in 1999 compared to 41% for whites.</p>
2001	<p>The Connecticut Supreme Court unanimously ruled that the Mohegan Tribe of Indians of Connecticut, owners of the enormously profitable Mohegan Sun casino, could not claim their name as a trademark. The federally recognized Mohegans were suing another faction called the Mohegan Tribe and Nation Inc., which is unrecognized but has a petition pending with the BIA. Along the way, the five judges of the court accepted a lower court finding that the unrecognized faction had a real claim to Mohegan ancestry. "Simply put, a Mohegan tribe must be permitted to describe itself as such because that is what it is," the decision reads. The case left open the question of whether a non-Mohegan or non-Indian could appropriate the tribal name.</p> <p>A Justice Department study of violent crime among different races shows a high rate of violence against American Native Americans, while crime against other groups has fallen. Native Americans were twice as likely to be victims of violent crime as blacks, whites or Asians.</p> <p>Native American women experience the highest rate of violence of any group in the United States. A report released by the Department of Justice, American Indians and Crime, found that Native American women suffer violent crime at a rate three and a half times greater than the national average. National researchers estimate that this number is actually much higher than has been captured by statistics; according to the Department of Justice over 70% of sexual assaults are never reported.</p> <p>Congress resolves to recognize American Indian Day as national holiday, first step in making it official.</p> <p>Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues is organized, first council of its kind within United Nations to protect interests of indigenous people.</p> <p>Mohegan Tribe donates \$1 million to fund assisting victims and families of rescue workers after September 11 terror attack on World Trade Center; other tribes also make donations of money, as well as blood and goods.</p> <p>Native American Bank founded, first nationwide bank run by Native Americans.</p>
2002	<p>On December 5, 2002, Gordon Yellowman Sr. visited the East Room of the White House. He was honored to stand where his great-great-grandfather Chief Sharp Nose had stood 125 years earlier. Gordon was excited to be in the presence of First Lady Laura Bush, who reminded him of his mother, June Yellowman.</p> <p>Oneida Indian Nation of New York donates \$10 million to Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian.</p> <p>Native American Nations participate for the first time in Winter Olympics at Salt Lake, Utah, with intertribal hospitality center and activity center where tribes present educational material and host ceremonial dances.</p> <p>Chickasaw John Bennett Herrington becomes first Native American in space on space shuttle flight visiting International Space Station and carries out three EVA's (extravehicular activity or space walk).</p>
2003	<p>On Dec. 2, the first Female Chief Justice of the Navajo Nation is sworn in.</p> <p>The U.S. General Accounting Office stated: " Management of Indian trust funds (including over 11 million acres of land held for over 387,000 beneficiaries) and assets has long been plagued by inadequate financial management, such as poor accounting and information systems, untrained and inexperienced staff; backlogs in appraisals, determination of ownership and record-keeping...and poor internal controls. As a result, account holders (i.e. Native Americans) have no assurance that their account balances are accurate or that the trust asserts are properly managed</p>

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2004	<p>The BIA turned down two Nipmuc (or Nipmuck) petitions, one from the Nipmuc Nation headquartered in Sutton and the other from the Webster/Dudley Band of Chaubunagungamaug Nipmuck Indians, which split from the first filing in 1996. As leaders of the Nipmuc Tribal Nation recover from the initial shock of losing their bid for federal recognition, they are accumulating examples of what they call inconsistencies and plain factual errors in the BIA Final Determination. In a joint statement, they said, "We have fought for decades through every imaginable obstacle for this long-withheld recognition, despite our people tracing back thousands of years and recognition by the Commonwealth [of Mass.] for more than 300 years.</p> <p>Native American attendance was at an all time high during the Democratic National Convention (DNC) held in Boston in July, 2004. Chairman Harold Frazier of the Cheyenne River Sioux Nation/tribe was honored by the DNC to serve as Assistant-Sergeant-At-Arms. The Native representation was the largest in the history of political conventions with 72 Native American Delegates, 20 Alternates, 5 Members of State, 2 Pages, a Native American Sgt.-At-Arms, and 4 Members of the DNC.</p> <p>The National Museum of the American Indian is the sixteenth museum of the Smithsonian Institution. It is the first national museum dedicated to the preservation, study, and exhibition of the life, languages, literature, history, and arts of Native Americans. Established by an Act of Congress in 1989 (amended in 1996), the museum works in collaboration with the Native peoples of the Western Hemisphere to protect and foster their cultures by reaffirming traditions and beliefs, encouraging contemporary artistic expression, and empowering the Indian voice.</p> <p>Leonard Peltier is nominated for Nobel Peace Prize.</p>
2005	<p>The National Collegiate Athletic Association entered the fray by prohibiting the use of 19 school's Native American mascots during post-season games, including Division 1 athletic icons Florida State (Seminoles), Illinois (Fighting Illini), and Utah (Utes). Regardless of stature, each institution will also be barred from hosting future NCAA postseason tournaments. Schools already selected as tournament sites would be asked to cover any offensive logos. "What each institution decides to do is really its own business" outside NCAA championship events, said committee chairman and University of Hartford president Walter Harrison. "What we are trying to say is that we find these mascots to be unacceptable for NCAA championship competition." NCAA then backpedaled and allowed some schools to use their mascot names.</p> <p>Kamehameha Schools defend its "Hawaiians-only" admissions policy, saying it has "a legitimate remedial reason for a preference" under historic civil rights legislation. In a petition asking the 9th Circuit of Appeals to reconsider its decision striking down the policy (John Doe v. Kamehameha Schools/Bernice Pauahi Bishop Estate), Kamehameha attorneys argue that the ruling "is unprecedented: It is the first in our nation's history to invalidate a remedial education policy by a private school for the benefit of any minority group, much less an indigenous people." "There is no dispute that the admissions policy remedies severe ongoing harms to native Hawaiians, and no dispute that Congress has itself enacted a host of explicit preferences for native Hawaiians to remedy those same harms," Kamehameha's petition states.</p> <p>Hurricane Katrina and Rita strike Louisiana and neighboring states and damage and destroy home of various Native peoples, including Chitimacha.</p> <p>Oneida Nation of New York donates \$1 million to relief efforts for victims of tsunami in Indian Ocean.</p> <p>Yakama Nation of Washington become owners of Sun Kings professional basketball team of Continental Basketball Association.</p> <p>San Carlos Apache and news reporter Mary Kin Titla found internet magazine, NativeYouthMagazine.com</p>
2006	<p>United Nations Draft Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples is finalized after 11 years of negotiations; it protects land rights and sovereignty of indigenous people worldwide.</p> <p>United Nations Committee for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination issues warning against United States that Western Shoshone are being denied traditional rights to lands.</p> <p>Area First Nations of Vancouver agree that Winter Olympic Games scheduled for 2010 can make use of Native lands for events.</p>
2007	<p>The Bureau of Indian Affairs formally recognized the Mashpee tribe of Wampanoags on Feb. 16 2007</p> <p>The University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign retired its "Chief Illiniwek" mascot. Protests against the use of this mascot, usually portrayed by a white student dressed in Lakota Sioux regalia and dancing, began at least as early as 1989. By the year 2000, the tribal council of the Peoria tribe of Indians of Oklahoma (the closest living descendents of the Illiniwek Confederacy) had come out publicly against the use of the mascot. The NCAA had prohibited the use of American Indian mascots at any post-season sporting events in 2005.</p> <p>Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission and commercial shellfish growers of Puget Sound region sign \$33 million treaty rights settlement, ending years of legal dispute.</p> <p>Lummi Indian Nation hosts "Return of the Potlatch," its largest potlatch in 70 years, with members of 68 tribes traveling by canoe from home in Alaska, British Columbia, Oregon, and Washington to the Lummi homeland near Bellingham, Washington.</p>
2007	<p>United Nations General Assembly adopts Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, affirming minimum human</p>

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	rights standards necessary for the "survival, dignity and well-being of the Indigenous peoples of the world"
2008	<p>Consultation and coordination with Indian Tribal Governments Act introduced in Congress, mandating that federal government consult with tribes on policies that directly affect NA's.</p> <p>Longest Walk 2 – a five month journey from San Francisco to Washington, D.C. held to commemorate 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of original Longest Walk of 1978, and bring attention to environmental and sacred site issues.</p> <p>Dept. of Homeland Security in conjunction with Dept. of the Interior waives nearly 20 federal laws, including the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, to try to speed construction of border fence between United States and Mexico.</p> <p>Canadian Parliament endorses United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples</p>
2009	<p>Washington, DC – The House of Representatives unanimously passed legislation that encourages the designation of the Friday after Thanksgiving as Native American Heritage Day. The Native American Heritage Day Act of 2009, H.J. Res. 40, encourages the establishment of a day to pay tribute to Native Americans for their many contributions to the United States, and passed by a unanimous 385 – 0 vote.</p>
2010	<p>Three Native Americans were invited to participate in Deval Patrick's celebration of his reelection as Governor on November 3<sup>rd</sup>.</p> <p>Winter Olympic Games were held in Vancouver with permission of the First Nations People.</p>
2010	<p>Congress, after years of trying and spurred by the impending retirement of Sen. Byron Dorgan of N.D., passed several landmark bills for Native Americans, including laws overhauling tribal health care and law enforcement and settling a 15 year battle over lost royalties for mismanaged Indian lands.</p> <p>Congress continued parceling out \$2.5 billion in economic stimulus money to tribes and resolved four longstanding water disputes involving a total of more than \$1 billion. (Boston Globe 1/1/11)</p>
2011	<p>A federal judge approved \$680 million settlement b/w Dept of Agriculture and Native American farmers who said they were denied loans because of discrimination.... agreement also includes \$80 million in farm debt forgiveness for the plaintiffs and a series of initiatives to try and alleviate racism in rural farm loan offices.... The suit was filed in 1999 and contends NA farmers and ranchers lost hundreds of millions of dollars over several decades because they were denied USDA loans. The government settled a similar lawsuit filed by black farmers more than a decade ago.</p> <p>Boston Globe 4/29/11</p>